

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-7, 9, 10, 14-17, 20-23, 26, 27 and 29-32 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, rejected claims 11, 13, 18 and 19 are canceled without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter recited therein. Reconsideration of this application in view of the above amendments is respectfully requested.

Entry of the amendments is proper under 37 CFR §1.116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance by canceling all rejected claims; and (b) do not raise any new issue requiring further search and/or consideration as the amendments merely cancel rejected claims. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented because they are made in response to arguments raised in the final rejection. Entry of the amendments is thus respectfully requested.

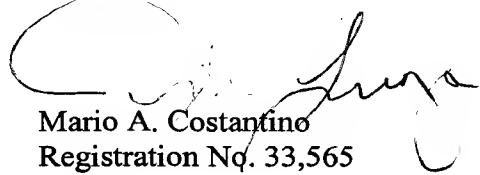
Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 1, 4-7, 9, 10, 14-17, 20-23, 26, 27 and 29-32 are allowed.

The Office Action rejects claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Ito et al. (Ito), U.S. Patent No. 6,967,675; rejects claim 19 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ito in view of Anderson, U.S. Patent No. 6,532,039; and rejects claims 13 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Ito in view of Tomat et al. (Tomat), U.S. Patent No. 6,784,925. The rejections of canceled claims 11, 13, 18 and 19 are moot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: June 6, 2008

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